Judge Olu Stevens, wife owe $583,000 in taxes

Andrew Wolfson, @adwolfson Published 6:06 p.m. ET Jan. 7, 2016 | **Updated 6:26 p.m. ET Jan. 7, 2016**

(Photo: The Courier-Journal)

Jefferson Circuit Court Judge Olu Stevens and his wife, Dr. Raymonda Stevens, owe nearly $583,000 in federal income taxes, according to liens placed on their home by the Internal Revenue Service.

The liens were filed in the Jefferson County Clerk's office in July 2015 for unpaid liabilities of $79,776 and in April 2013 for liabilities of $503,108. The taxes were owed for 2009 to 2014.

The liens were filed on a home owned by the Stevenses on Woodbridge Hill Lane. The records show neither lien has been released.

Stevens did not respond to an email, and his wife, a diagnostic radiologist in Lexington, could not be reached at her office. The couple have an unlisted phone number.

The records don't show who incurred the liability, although the liens was issued by the "Small Business/Self-Employed Area" of the IRS. Judge Stevens receives a paycheck from the state.

Olu Stevens was appointed to the bench in 2009 by Gov. Steve Beshear and elected unopposed last year to a full eight-year term.

He drew national attention early last year after he criticized the victims of an armed robbery (/story/news/local/2015/04/17/judge-olu-stevens-rebuke-victims-stirs-racist-backlash/25952407/) for "fostering" the views of their 5-year-old daughter, whom they said was still scared of black men after two African Americans had held the family at gunpoint.

And last month, Kentucky Chief Justice John D. Minton Jr. referred to the state Judicial Conduct Commission allegations (/story/news/crime/2015/12/18/minton-denies-motion-pull-stevens-cases/77573512/) that Stevens may have violated the Code of Judicial Conduct through Facebook posts that implied that Commonwealth's Attorney Tom Wine is a racist.

Adam Satterly apologizes to Judge Olu Stevens
(https://www.courier-journal.com/videos/news/crime/2016/01/06/78378672/?from=global&sessionKey=&autologin=)

Stevens attacked Wine for questioning the judge's decision to strike a jury in which the one potential black juror was removed at random.

The tax liens were first reported by WDRB, which said judicial experts called the liabilities concerning because judges are supposed to avoid the appearance of impropriety on and off the bench.

Reporter Andrew Wolfson can be reached at (502) 582-7189 or awolfson@courier-journal.com (mailto:awolfson@courier-journal.com).

Read or Share this story: http://cjky.it/1RcBcRI

4 free articles left.
Only $1 for 3 months. Save 97%.